

Guiding the Development of a Tool to Help Inform Pediatric Postsurgical Pain Management

A First Glance at Focus Group Data from Family and Patient Partners

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Persistent Postoperative Pain



Approximately 1 in 5 children continue to
experience pain 12 months following surgery¹

Persistent Postoperative Pain

is associated with detrimental consequences:



Summary of Long-Term Project Plan

The four phases of our research program

01

Patient-Oriented Outcome & Tool Selection

Focus groups with parents, clinicians, and allied health professionals

02

Development of a Prediction Model

Implement data collection tools to collect pre- and post-operative data

03

Develop a Communication Tool

Co-design tool with parents and clinicians and evaluate usability

04

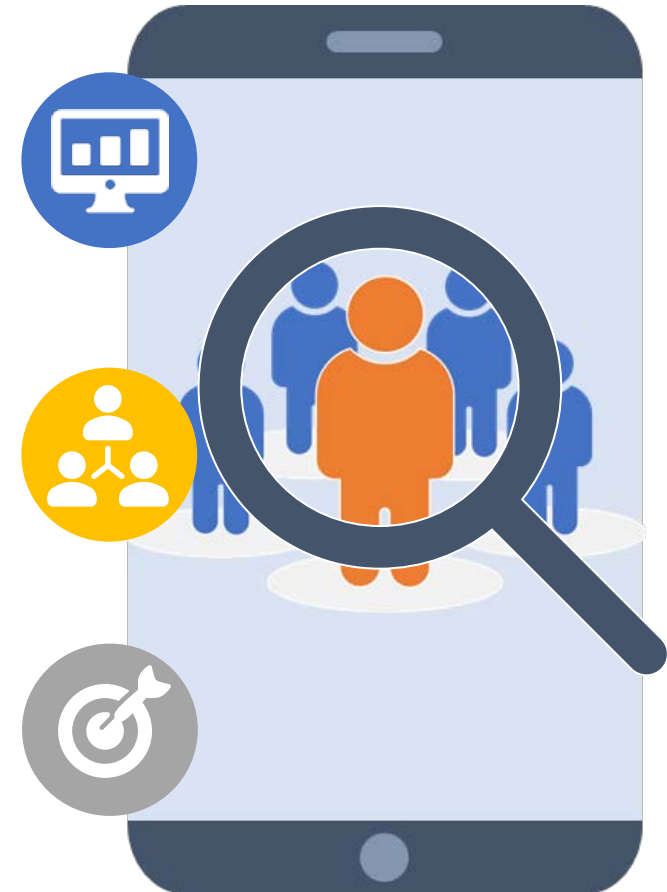
Pilot Implementation & Evaluation

Implement data collection tools that use risk score and present to patients

Research Objective

We aim to better understand:

- 1) What **factors** parents & clinicians believe can predict long-term pain after surgery
- 2) What postoperative **outcomes** are most relevant to families
- 3) How to **collect** this information before & after surgery



Study Design

Setting



1 Canadian Centre
(BC Children's Hospital).

Recruitment



We are recruiting parents,
patient partners, & clinicians.

Focus Groups



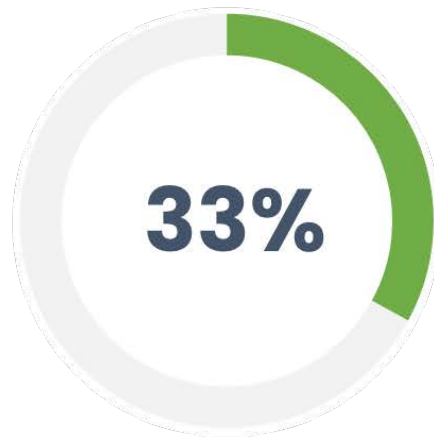
Sessions are held virtually using
Zoom videoconferencing.

Results

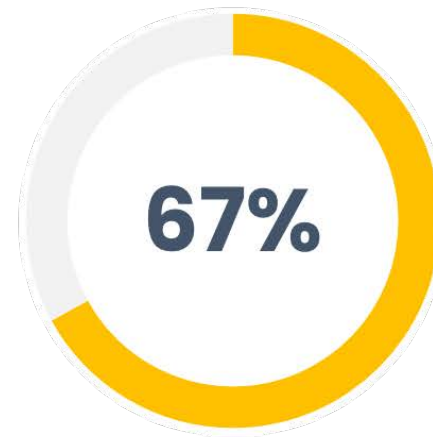


9 Participants

Patient Partners



Parents



Results Continued

Participants indicated that risk factors for pain following surgery & a recovery outcome measure may include:

Demographics

E.g., age, travel time to hospital, sex, ethnicity, household income

Psychosocial Factors

E.g., anxiety, medical phobias, post-traumatic stress disorder



Clinical Characteristics

E.g., concurrent conditions, previous surgeries, administered anesthetics

Functional Recovery

E.g., eating/drinking, bowel movements, urination, nausea, vomiting, mobility, return to school, playing with friends

Additional Factors for Consideration

Essential themes suggested by families

1

Clarity of discharge instructions



4

Access to care



2

Availability of support network(s)



5

Transparency & comprehension



3

Effective coordination of care



6

Continuous monitoring & management of pain



Future Research Directions

2

Tool Identification

Participants return to identify tools to capture and quantify these metrics.

1

Additional Pre- & Post-Operative Metrics

Focus groups will be held to identify additional metrics.



3

Data Collection

Identified tools will be implemented for future statistical modeling.

References

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